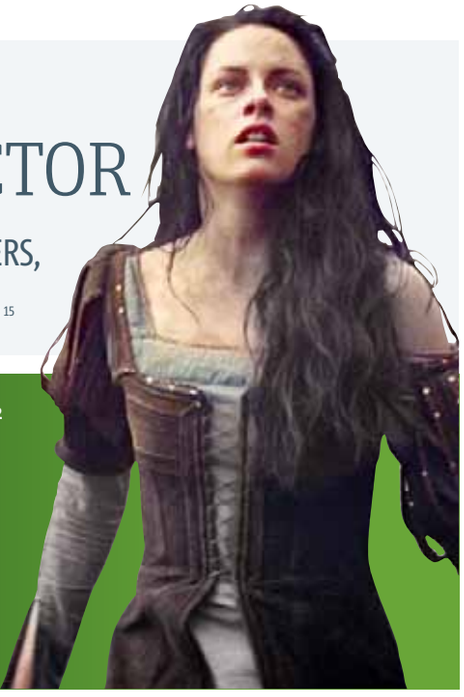
Reunited with her missing kids

Years after being taken away, and days after being found in Mexico, children immediately recognize mom PAGE 7

SNOW WHITE AND THE NOVICE DIRECTOR

UNIVERSAL SHOWS FAITH IN RUPERT SANDERS, LETTING HIM DEBUT WITH $175M MOVIE PAGE 15



VANCOUVER metro®

Tuesday, May 29, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Police probe fatal SHOOTING

PAGE 4

An RCMP officer walks outside a sushi restaurant during a homicide investigation in Burnaby on Monday.

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Branson's naked ambition

All or nothing. Billionaire's kitesurfing invitation to premier stands as long as she follows 'dress code'

MATT KIELTYKA
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Oh, to be a billionaire.

Virgin Group founder Sir Richard Branson captured plenty of headlines during his recent trip to Vancouver, launching his airline's service to the city, hosting gala events, charming members of the Vancouver Board of Trade and writing cheques to several local charities and organizations.

But the fun-loving billionaire known for his outgoing nature and outlandish publicity stunts made waves Monday with a cheeky blog post about his inviting British Columbia Premier Christy Clark to go kitesurfing with him.

Turns out there's a catch, and it could be a deal breaker.

"When in British Columbia a few days ago, the delightful Premier Christy Clark accepted my invite to come for a kite surf ride on my back," Branson wrote Monday on his personal blog. "One thing though — I forgot to tell her about the dress code!"

Branson's invitation is valid only if Clark agrees to get completely naked while clinging to the philanthropist for dear life.

Just in case anyone had any doubts about what Branson means about the dress code, the post featured an image of him kitesurfing with a nude model riding piggyback.

Considering the premier has already weathered one overblown dress-code controversy — when former NDP MLA David Schreck criticized her last year for wearing a V-neck he considered too low in the legislature — it's doubtful Clark will be dressing down anytime soon for a joyride with Branson.

Even though, as he wrote, "the offer still stands Christy."

Apparently, Premier Christy Clark has agreed to go kitesurfing with billionaire Richard Branson. But, as the Virgin Group founder wrote on his blog Monday, Clark may not realize what she's gotten herself into. SCREENGRAB FROM RICHARD BRANSON'S BLOG ON VIRGIN.COM

B.C. gets a new holiday

Family Day will be the province's 10th statutory holiday when it debuts next year PAGE 3

A nuclear rice harvest?

Japan's rice will have to be tested for traces of radiation PAGE 8

Indian food gets makeover

Traditional South Asian cuisine is now just a phone call away PAGE 19

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Crime reduction

More work to do on crime: Mayor Watts

Surrey's crime rate has dropped nearly 16 per cent since 2006, council heard Monday night.

Mayor Dianne Watts and the rest of city council were given an overview of the Crime Reduction Strategy Annual Report Monday to gauge how effective 106 crime-fighting and prevention initiatives have been since first implemented six years ago.

According to the report, overall crime is down 15.9 per cent from 2006 to 2010.

Motor-vehicle thefts represented the biggest decline (40.9 per cent) followed by break-and-enter (28.1 per cent) and property crime (24.5 per cent).

Watts said she was thrilled with the numbers, but knows her city still needs to push to lower rates, address emerging issues and spur community involvement.

"The Crime Reduction Strategy is a living document that we need to constantly work on," Watts said. "It's a top priority for our city."

Watts said that new challenges have kept the city's crime-reduction-strategy manager and the city's seven crime analysts on their toes since the strategy was first put in place.

"There are still issues we need to address, including emerging ones like kids getting recruited into gangs and making sure we help refugee kids achieve success," said the mayor.

That's why many of the initiatives from the city focus on community development and involvement and cross over with other city strategies, Watts said. The city expects to have crime statistics for 2011 compiled by late July.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Premier Christy Clark announces Monday at the Vancouver Aquarium that British Columbians will get their first taste of Family Day on the second Monday in February each year, starting in 2013. PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

B.C. ready to spend time with the family

Statutory. B.C's first Family Day holiday set for Feb. 11, 2013

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
phylicia.torrevillas@metronews.ca

Mark your calendars.

Premier Christy Clark has announced that B.C.'s first Family Day will take place on the second Monday in February, which falls on the 11th next year.

B.C. now has 10 statutory holidays.

"It's not true that it's just the quality of time you spend with your family, it's actually the quantity that matters too," Clark said in her announcement Monday at the Vancouver Aquarium, one of the many destinations she hopes families will go to during Family Day.

Clark said the government settled on the day after asking B.C. families in an online poll whether they preferred the second or third Monday. More than 31,000 people voted and 3,000 comments were received.

Some small businesses have expressed concern that they can't afford an extra paid holiday for their staff.

But Clark was optimistic that this would have a big economic impact for the tourism, retail and recreation sectors.

"A lot of other economies across Canada have gotten used to Family Day, including Saskatchewan, which has one of the fastest-growing, best-performing economies in the country and they've had more stat holidays than B.C. for quite a while," she said.

Clark promised to bring in the new holiday during her Liberal party leadership campaign.

People in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan all have the third Monday in February off, while the February statutory holiday is Louis Riel Day in Manitoba and Islander Day in Prince Edward Island.

Sherry Sinclair, senior board member of the B.C. Association of Family Resource Programs, said the holiday is great way to recognize the province's "unsung heroes."

"This is more than a holiday or a day off, it's a day that values the broad diversity of families in this province and their hard work and dedication," she said.

Follow Phylicia Torrevillas on Twitter @ptorrevillas

1 NEWS

On the web

Women can't get no satisfaction

Sex isn't all it's cracked up to be, at least for Canadian women. So says a new study that found the fairer sex are only "making do." The survey found only 31 per cent of Canadian women have an orgasm during regular sex compared to 84 per cent of men. More at metronews.ca

Mobile news

A new app might prove useful to Canadians heading out on road trips this summer and seeking timely health information along the way. Scan the code to read more

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Homicide officers probe double slaying in Burnaby restaurant

Shooting. Too early to say if victims were targeted, police say

The man and woman found fatally shot in a Burnaby sushi restaurant weren't linked to gangs or drugs but were the victims of a "cold and callous killing," RCMP said on Monday.

Police were called to the restaurant Sunday night after a passerby saw what appeared to be a body on the floor, Sgt. Jennifer Pound said.

Officers found the bodies of Huong (Andy) Tran, 36, of Burnaby, and a woman whose name wasn't released.

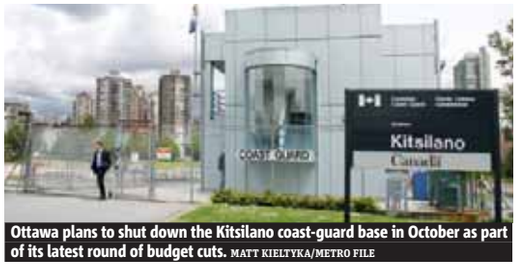
"We can say that both victims are not known to police and an investigative priority is to determine the motive for this cold and callous killing," Pound said in a news release.

She said the victims were connected to the restaurant, but didn't say how. She also didn't say how the victims were connected to each other. Police said it was too early to speculate whether the shooting was targeted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RCMP officers talk outside a sushi restaurant during a homicide investigation in Burnaby on Monday, after a man and woman were found shot dead late Sunday night. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. appealing to keep coast-guard station open



Ottawa plans to shut down the Kitsilano coast-guard base in October as part of its latest round of budget cuts. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO FILE

Premier Christy Clark says she's "way ahead" of Adrian Dix, after the NDP leader proposed that the two parties join forces to fight the federal government's decision to close the Canadian Coast Guard station in Kitsilano.

"The minister of justice (Shirley Bond) has written a letter to the federal government, telling them how disappointed we are on this and asking them to reconsider it," Clark said.

"I understand budget pressure … but I think you want to make sure when you're balancing your budget, you minimize the impact on regions," she added. "I think a lot of us who use the ocean, and I'm one of them, want to know that no lives will be imperilled."

On Sunday, the New Democrat leader said a united action between his party and Clark's Liberals would show that B.C. is committed to seeing coast-guard services maintained.

Dix wrote to Clark, asking her to support passing a motion in the legislature opposing the cuts.

He also suggested the formation of a legislative committee to examine the impact of the base closure and a joint trip to Ottawa to lobby their case.

The federal government said closing the Kitsilano station will save $900,000. The closure will leave one coast-guard base, in Richmond, to serve the greater Vancouver area.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO/WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

First Nations

Tory leader misguided on land claims: Clark

B.C. Conservative Leader John Cummins is living in the past with his views about First Nations land claims, Premier Christy Clark says.

Cummins says the government owns the province for all British Columbians and shouldn't be giving it away in land claims.

Clark says Cummins' views are a relic of the 1970s and says the government is working collaboratively with First Nations to make them partners in economic development.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Teapot tempest

Liberals try to trap NDP into dissing Mulcair

The B.C. Liberals are trying to draw the NDP into condemning the federal NDP leader. At issue are comments by Thomas Mulcair, who said resource extraction is hurting Canadian manufacturers. Liberal Bill Bennett is calling on MLAs to reject Mulcair's position, saying the resource industry provides jobs. NDPer John Horgan says Mulcair was only trying to make the point that resource extraction that isn't sustainable can't be supported.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Labour dispute

Teachers vow to fight imposed contract

B.C. teachers are vowing a fight if the province attempts to impose a contract on them. Teachers' Federation president Susan Lambert says the government is ignoring teachers' collective-bargaining rights. Education Minister George Abbott has said the province will legislate a contract if one isn't reached by June 30. Earlier this year, Abbott introduced legislation to stop teachers from walking off the job and appointed a mediator.

CHNL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Green initiative

Goats to the rescue

A herd of hungry goats is preparing to spend about 10 delicious days chomping on some nasty weeds along the banks of the Peace River.

Conrad Lindbloom of Beaverlodge, Alta., is bringing his herd of 500 goats to the Peace River Regional District next week, as a green solution to wipe out infestations of Dalmation toadflax.

The invasive species has pretty yellow flowers, but is not native to northeastern B.C. and could choke out local plants.

This is the second year goats are being used, as the size of two infestations of toadflax prevent the use of herbicides, and the flowers can't be mowed because of the steep banks along the Peace River.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mmm … Dalmatian toadflax. Conrad Lindbloom's herd will be getting to work next week. FLICKR.COM

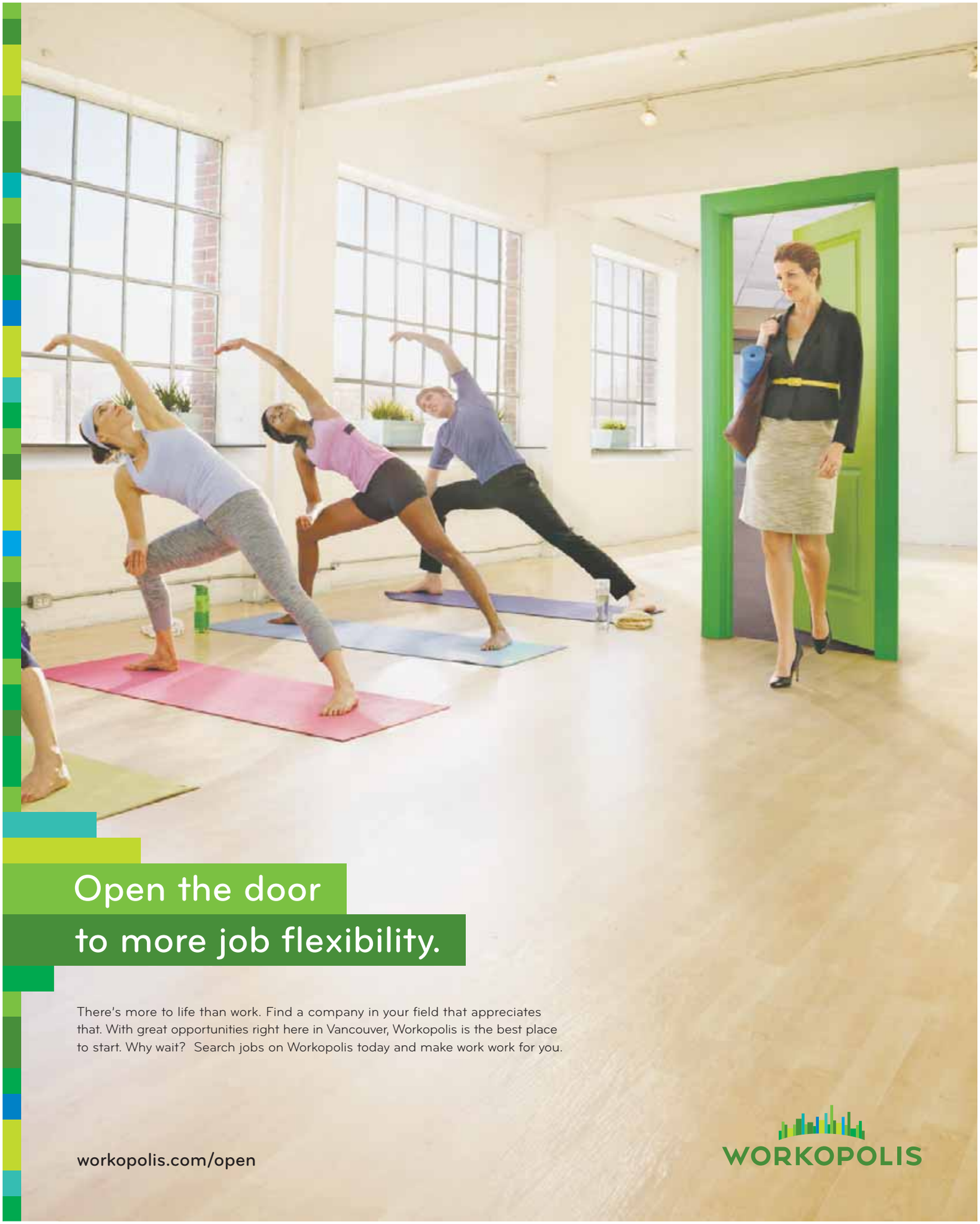
Capilano University

Search-and-rescue leader honoured

A man who has helped save dozens of lives every year on the backcountry trails of Vancouver's North Shore will be recognized on Tuesday with an honorary degree from Capilano University.

North Shore Rescue team leader Tim Jones will receive an honorary doctor of laws, along with writer and storyteller Jo-ann Archibald of the Sto:lo First Nation and former UN ambassador Stephen Lewis.

THE CANADIAN PRESS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At least we're not a-loan.
Majority of people in B.C. are in debt: Poll

A whopping 71 per cent of British Columbians are carrying debt, according to a national poll, but a money expert says not all debt is bad.

Vancouver money coach Melanie Buffel, a financial literacy trainer at the Canadian Centre for Financial Literacy, said it's people in the habit of packing plastic who need to curb their risky spending.

"I think there are good reasons to carry some debt for sure, and a mortgage is still one of those, but it's really the consumer debt that we need to really drill down and take a closer look (at)," she said. "It's the large loans for cars that depreciate in value; it's the credit-card debt that seems to never go away."

According to the Harris/Decima poll commissioned by CIBC, 37 per cent of people in B.C. have a mortgage, while 41 per cent carry credit-card debt. Thirty-six per cent have a balance on their line of credit, while five per cent are paying down a student loan, and 17 per cent are paying off some other kind of loan.

"If it's student debt, that's an investment in their future," Buffel said. "Try to work part-time to cover the cost of your lifestyle. If you're taking a student loan that covers all of your costs for the duration of your studies, that's when you're looking at, you know, $50,000 of debt, and that's really difficult to pay back."

The poll finds the age group most likely to be in debt is adults ages 25 to 44, with about 82 per cent in that demographic reporting indebtedness. After age 45, the likelihood of being in debt begins to decline.

Only 26 per cent of British Columbians interviewed reported being completely debt-free, while three per cent declined to answer or didn't know.

The number of B.C. residents in debt is right on par with the national average of 71 per cent.

The margin of error for the 250 B.C. residents polled between March 22 and April 2 is plus or minus 6.2 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

KATE WEBB/METRO

Animal kingdom. Climate change impacts land and sea species differently: Study

Fish and other marine species are likely to migrate north much faster than terrestrial species in response to climate change, according to a new study produced by Simon Fraser University and Australia's University of Tasmania.

The study was published this week in the journal Nature Climate Change.

"If you think of an animal as having a range distribution that has a north and a southern edge to it, fish are moving north, both at their northern edge and at their southern edge, so they're very cohesively moving up," explained lead study author and Simon Fraser University biologist Jennifer Sunday.

"On land, (animals') northern range edge is moving up, but the southern edge ranges aren't moving as quickly as we would expect, and it looks like that's because they're not actually limited by heat, they're limited by something else that hasn't changed yet."

Sunday and her colleagues came to their conclusions by comparing data on the heat- and cold-tolerance levels of 169 cold-blooded marine and terrestrial species with average temperatures in the regions they inhabit. They found that dryness may become more of a factor in land animals' migration than temperatures as the climate changes. KATE WEBB/METRO

Two workers dead

Mill reopens after last month's explosion

A lumber mill in northern B.C. that was hit by a deadly explosion last month has temporarily reopened for six weeks.

Two workers were killed and two dozen were injured at the Lakeland Mills sawmill in Prince George when an explosion ripped through the facility in April. THE CANADIAN PRESS

South of Kamloops

Heavy equipment needed to clear flipped crane

Specialized equipment is on the way from the Vancouver area as crews prepare to retrieve a giant crane that has flipped on a highway. The mobile crane unit was being hauled on the Coquihalla Highway on Sunday when the massive rig slipped off the road roughly 20 kilometres south of Kamloops. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Karma Exchange founder Shannen O'Brien, second from right, poses with Beatrice Didongo, right, a student supported by O'Brien's charity, Create Change, and Didongo's mother and grandmother in Navrongo, Ghana. METRO/HANDOUT/CREATE CHANGE

Local startup makes Branson's top 10 list

Karma Exchange.
Online startup operates a lot like Groupon, except profits are donated to charity in Ghana

KATE WEBB
kate.webb@metronews.ca

A Vancouver company that donates 100 per cent of its profits to education and water projects in Africa has been recognized as one of the top 10 ethical businesses in Richard Branson's global Screw Business as Usual contest.

Karma Exchange, an online startup, operates a lot like Groupon, offering discounts on everyday products and packages such as coffee, restaurant meals and spa services.

But, instead of pocketing the profit, Vancouver founder Shannen O'Brien donates all of it to a charity she created in Ghana called Create Change.

Branson's charity, Virgin Unite, tracked O'Brien down in March to ask her to participate in the billionaire's contest.

"Richard Branson is all about entrepreneurs — he's definitely the top of that industry — so for us to be recognized by him was obviously a huge compliment," O'Brien said. "That recognition really helps with your branding and to get more businesses on board to join this movement of incorporating a corporate-social-responsibility component into their business."

O'Brien said that, since it was founded five years ago, Create Change has helped more than 1,000 girls and women in Ghana get their high school and post-secondary educations each year, and provided 25,000 people with access to clean drinking water.

In Branson's own words, the Screw Business as Usual contest, named after his 2011 book by the same title, is for people who "at the same time as wanting to develop a business and make a living, also want to do more to help people and the planet."

Details on Karma Exchange's deals and auctions can be found at karmaexchange.com.

Follow Kate Webb on Twitter @MetroK8

UGM women's day shelter goes full-time

A daytime shelter for vulnerable women in the Downtown Eastside will remain a fixture in the neighbourhood.

The Union Gospel Mission and the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre have been running a day shelter with 14 beds for three months as a pilot project.

The space gives women a place to stay after night shelters are shut down and, more importantly, gives them a hub for accessing essential services and linking up with permanent-housing providers.

"There was no safe and stable place to go during the day," said UGM's Candice Harper, who runs the shelter. "With the day shelter, they have a meal, a place to sleep and don't have to walk the neighbourhood. They also have a phone number so that social workers can get in touch with them."

After completion of the three-month pilot program, Harper said the need for such a facility is "even bigger than we realized."

UGM will continue to run the shelter permanently, and is looking for up to another $500,000 in funding to double the shelter's capacity.

"One of the steps we take is to have women fill out a BC Housing application to get a home that meets their needs, but they need a place to stay in the meantime," said Harper. "Sometimes going back to a single-room-occupancy hotel is even worse, so we provide them with a safe place and wait it out. It can take six months, nine months, even a year to get something."

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Winnipeg mother reunited with her missing children

Alleged abduction. Four years after being taken away, kids found in Guadalajara, Mexico

Emily Cablek has been reunited with her two children almost four years after they were taken from her, moved around Mexico and kept hidden from public view, authorities said Monday.

Cablek saw her children Dominic and Abby Maryk, now eleven and nine years old respectively, on the weekend after they were found in a home in Guadalajara on Friday. Their father, Kevin Maryk, was arrested on a charge of child abduction and is in custody in Mexico.

"They absolutely, 100 per cent recognized their mother. (They) have many memories, Dominic is looking forward to a Slurpee," Christy Dzikowicz, with the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, said Monday. The centre is a non-profit agency that works with governments and law enforcement to help protect children from abduction, exploitation and abuse.

"But much has been stolen from them. No school to learn. No doctors to take care. No friends to play with. No mother to love, nurture and protect them."

Cablek said in a statement that she is the "happiest mommy" in the world right now and would like to have uninterrupted time with her children.

"I'm asking please give my family some privacy so that we can begin to heal," she said. "We have a long road ahead and I want my children to feel completely safe through all of it. They deserve nothing less."

Police allege Maryk abducted his children during a court-ordered visit on Aug. 16, 2008, and moved around frequently to avoid detection. He lived for a while in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, before moving to Guadalajara. Police allege he kept the kids inside the home during the day — forbidding them from going to school, playing with other kids or seeing a physician.

Emily Cablek, centre, poses with her two children, Abby and Dominic Maryk, in this photo taken by the Winnipeg Police Service in Winnipeg on Monday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"This is an evil individual who did not want to be found and did take steps to try and ensure that these kids were never located," Det. Sgt. Shaunna Neufeld of the Winnipeg Police Service's missing persons unit told a news conference.

Authorities are now trying to extradite Maryk, 40, and Robert Neil Groen, 41, from Mexico on child-abduction charges. Police have also issued a Canada-wide warrant for Cody John McKay, 23, who is alleged to have helped in the abduction.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec resumes talks with student groups

Gabriel Nadeau Dubois, a spokesperson for student group C.L.A.S.S.E, before a meeting in Quebec City on Monday. CLEMENT ALLARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A two-week period marked by burgeoning protest and bitter recrimination has now entered a new phase, with Quebec student leaders back at the negotiating table with the provincial government Monday.

Student representatives arrived in Quebec City for their first face-to-face meeting with government officials since mid-May. Eight hours later, they ended for the night and will resume at 1 p.m. Tuesday.

The head of the group representing college students left the meeting unwilling to comment or provide any indication if progress had been made.

Leo Bureau-Blouin later urged about 200 protesters who gathered outside the building to disperse and avoid arrest.

"We have a chaince to avoid that things degenerate tonight," he said. "You know that the climate is fragile with the government, if we can avoid things going badly tonight I think it's in everybody's interest."

But riot police deployed in the provincial capital moved in and removed more than 50 people to waiting buses.

Talks had broken off when the government tabled emergency legislation aimed at controlling the protests. The move appears to have backfired, however. Festive and largely peaceful demonstrations have spread to other cities — in some cases even outside Quebec and Canada.

Students said they expected the government to compromise on the key issue of tuition increases that sparked their movement in the first place. They said any solution would include two elements: a retreat on tuition fees and on the emergency law, Bill 78.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mount Everest

Climber's body recovered

The body of a Canadian woman who died while returning from the summit of Mount Everest is one step closer to being evacuated from the mountain.

A spokesman from Utmost Adventure Trekking says a team of climbers managed to bring Shriya Shah-Klorfine's remains down within helicopter rescue range earlier today.

Shah-Klorfine was among several climbers who died while trying to scale Mount Everest on May 19. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cape Breton

Body found in hockey bag

Police in Nova Scotia have identified human remains that were found stuffed inside a hockey bag and floating on a river.

Cape Breton Regional Police say the remains of a 21-year-old woman from Cape Breton were found around 8 p.m. on Friday in Marion Bridge. The bag was discovered by residents who spotted it floating on the Mira River behind their home. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto

Engine failure leads to hasty landing

A Boeing 777 made an emergency landing at Toronto's Pearson airport on Monday after losing an engine shortly after takeoff.

Air Canada spokesperson Peter Fitzpatrick said the crew landed the plane on one engine and there were no injuries among the 318 passengers and 16 crew aboard. The cause of the engine shutdown on the flight to Tokyo was as yet unknown. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Malaysia

Licence plate sold for $165,600 US

The World Wide Web has inspired a bidding war in Malaysia — on licence plates.

When the prefix "WWW" became available on this Southeast Asian country's plates, more than 18,000 people submitted bids. The Road Transport Department said Monday that the most coveted plate, "WWW1," sold for a record 520,000 ringgit ($165,600 US) to Malaysian royal state leader Sultan Ibrahim Ismail. The constitutional leader of Malaysia's southern Johor state is reputedly a car enthusiast.

Officials estimate the successful WWW bids will earn the transport department about $3.6 million.

The previous highest sum paid for a licence plate in Malaysia was $95,600 in 2010 for MCA1, the acronym for a national political party.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Australia

Bandits target wrong house

Two masked bandits robbed the wrong Australian home hours after a teenager posted a photo on Facebook of a large pile of her grandmother's savings.

New South Wales state police said Monday that the men, armed with a club and a knife, struck the home of the 17-year-old's mother in the country town of Bundanoon on Thursday night, but were told the daughter no longer lived there.

The bandits searched the house and took a small amount of cash as well as other property before leaving. No one was injured.

Police said that earlier Thursday, the girl had posted a picture on her Facebook page of a "large sum of cash" she had helped count at her 72-year-old grandmother's home in Sydney, 120 kilometres northeast of Bundanoon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Toraaki Ogata drives a tractor to plant rice saplings in a paddy field in Fukushima, northeastern Japan, on May 21. YURI KAGEYAMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rice farmers praying for harvest free of radiation

Fukushima, Japan. Every grain needs to meet safety standards in order to be sold

Quoted

"It's not our fault at all, but the land of our ancestors has been defiled."

Toraaki Ogata, rice farmer

Last year's crop sits in storage, deemed unsafe to eat, but Toraaki Ogata is back at his rice paddies, driving his tractor planting neat rows of seedlings. He's living up to his family's proud, six-generation history of rice farming, and praying that this time his harvest will not have too much radiation to sell.

That conflict is shared by several thousand farmers in more than 17,000 acres of Fukushima, where some of last year's harvest exceeded government safety standards because of radiation released when the March 2011 tsunami set off the world's second-worst nuclear accident. For their rice to be sold, it will have to be tested — every grain of it.

"All I can do is pray there will be no radiation," Ogata, 58, said last week, wiping off sweat during a break in his 1.5-hectare paddy 60 kilometres from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant.

Rice farming is almost sacred in rural Japan, and the government protects farmers with tight restrictions on imports. Many farmers are too close to the nuclear disaster to return to the fields, but others have gotten the go-ahead, even with the risk their harvests may end up being too radiated to ship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Northwest Territories. Bullet could be cause of damage to airborne plane

RCMP are investigating to determine whether a float plane flying over Yellowknife was hit by a bullet.

Police say the 185 Cessna was damaged in flight over Latham Island on Sunday.

The pilot heard an impact during flight and after landing found that one of the propellers and engine bonnet were damaged.

Police say the damage was consistent with being caused by a bullet and, although minor, could have been life-threatening.

The RCMP are reminding people to be careful when using firearms and not to aim at passing planes in the sky.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

California. Park with beautiful Sequoia trees has worst air pollution

The California forest that is home to the biggest and oldest living things on earth, the giant Sequoia redwoods, also suffers a dubious distinction. It has the worst air pollution of any national park in the U.S.

"Ozone levels here are comparable to urban settings such as LA," said Emily Schrepf of the non-profit advocacy group the National Park Conservation Association. "It's just not right."

Signs in visitor centres warn guests when it's not safe to hike.

The government employment website warns job applicants that the workplace is unhealthy. And park workers are briefed every year on the lung and heart damage the pollution can cause.

Although weakened trees are more susceptible to drought and pests, the long-term impact on the pines and on the giant redwoods that have been around for 3,000 years and more is unclear.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

P-r-e-c-o-c-i-o-u-s

Tiny speller, 6, vies in Scripps bee

This week, six-year-old Lori Anne Madison will be onstage with youngsters more than twice her age — and twice her size — as one of 278 students who have qualified for the Scripps National Spelling Bee in the U.S. The spelling bee doesn't have a lower age limit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Felony trial

Edwards jury may be deadlocked

The jury at the trial of former U.S. presidential candidate John Edwards is set to begin deliberations for a seventh day Tuesday, and speculation is growing that it may be deadlocked.

Edwards faces six felony charges in a case involving nearly $1 million US in donations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drought in North Korea bodes ill for food yield

Food shortages. Dry spell threatens crops during critical planting season

West annoyed over rocket

"The U.S. would like to get to a place where we could contemplate providing nutritional assistance." But Glyn Davies, a top U.S. envoy said that's not possible now.

North Korea is reporting a serious drought that could worsen already critical food shortages, but help is unlikely to come from the United States and South Korea following Pyongyang's widely criticized rocket launch.

North Korea has had little rain since April 27, with the country's western coastal areas particularly hard hit, according to a government weather agency in Pyongyang.

The dry spell threatened to damage crops, officials said, as the country enters a critical planting season and as food supplies from the last harvest dwindle.

In at least one area of South Phyongan Province where journalists were allowed to visit, the sun-baked fields appeared parched and cracked, and farmers complained of extreme drought conditions.

Deeply tanned men, and women in sun bonnets, worked over cabbages and corn seedlings.

Farmers cupped individual seedlings as they poured water from blue buckets onto the parched red soil.

"I've been working at the farm for more than 30 years, but I have never experienced this kind of severe drought," said An Song Min, a farmer at the Tokhae Cooperative Farm in the Nampho area.

North Korea has suffered chronic food shortages for the past two decades because of economic and agricultural mismanagement as well as natural disasters.

A North Korean farmer gathers water as he tries to irrigate a field at the Tokhae co-operative farm near Nampho. KIM KWANG HYON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A famine in the 1990s killed an estimated hundreds of thousands of people.

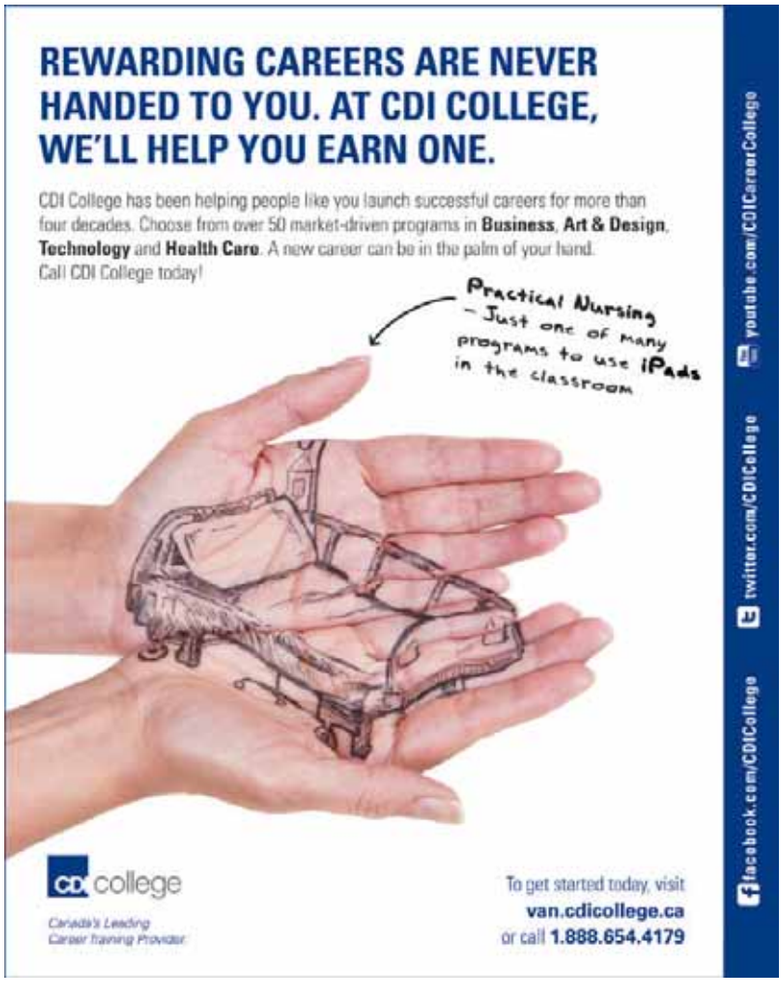
The country's past appeals for food aid have been met with some skepticism, however, amid concerns that aid would be diverted to the military and Pyongyang elite without reaching the hungry.

The U.S. government suspended food handouts to North Korea in 2009 after Pyongyang expelled foreign food distribution monitors.

In February, the U.S. reversed course and agreed to provide 240,000 metric tons of food aid in exchange for a freeze in nuclear and missile activities.

However, the deal collapsed after North Korea launched a long-range rocket last month in a failed attempt to send a satellite into space to study the weather.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Fukushima disaster. Former leader decries lack of expert guidance

Japan's former leader felt fearful and helpless during last year's nuclear disaster and lacked experts capable of giving him guidance, he testified Monday in his first response to a public investigative inquiry on the crisis.

Naoto Kan resigned in September after being criticized for government failures during the disaster.

He told the parliamentary panel he felt afraid when nuclear officials kept failing to explain conditions at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant, where three reactors melted down following the magnitude-9.0 earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011.

Kan also said the country's nuclear emergency preparedness law, set up in 1999 after a fatal accident at a nuclear fuel processing plant, did not address a severe accident that would require hundreds of thousands of people to evacuate, as in Fukushima.

"Everything anticipated in the law was inadequate, and we had to go through all kinds of troubles that we didn't need," he said. For instance, the plant's off-site crisis management centre, which had no protection for radiation or backup power, had to be abandoned.

Kan said nuclear officials sent from government offices and the utility operating the plant as his advisers were not useful, and he never received the kind of information he needed.

Japan's main regulatory body, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, was particularly incapable, he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Incapable advisors:

"You can't expect a nuclear expert to be prime minister or cabinet minister, so we need top regulatory officials to provide expertise and help us. We didn't have those people," said Kan.

- The crisis also revealed problems of cozy ties between the industry and sympathetic government regulators known as "the nuclear village."

Egypt. Mubarak's ex-PM to face Brotherhood candidate in runoff vote

The runoff vote for Egypt's next president will pit the Muslim Brotherhood's candidate against the last prime minister to serve under Hosni Mubarak.

Full official results were released Monday by the election commission.

Commission chief Farouq Sultan told a news conference that the Brotherhood's Mohammed Morsi and Ahmed Shafiq, a former air-force commander and a longtime friend of the ousted leader, were the top two finishers in the first round of voting held on May 23-24.

Morsi won 5.76 million votes, or 24.77 per cent of the votes, while Shafiq got 5.5 million, 23.66 per cent.

Finishing a close third was leftist candidate Hamdeen Sabahi with 4.82 million votes, or 20.7 per cent.

Morsi and Shafiq have been the most polarizing of the 13 candidates who contested the first round, setting the stage for a fiercely contested runoff June 16-17.

Sultan said that of the 50 million registered voters, 23.67 million cast ballots, a turnout of 46.4 per cent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egyptian presidential candidates, Ahmed Shafiq, left, and Mohammed Morsi will contest next month's runoff vote. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Vatileaks' scandal

High-ranking prelates could be named

One of the Vatican's biggest-ever scandals widened Monday with the Pope's butler — arrested for allegedly having confidential documents in his home — agreeing to co-operate with investigators.

Paolo Gabriele's pledge to co-operate raises the spectre that prelates may be named in the investigation.

Italian media reports that a cardinal is suspected of playing a major role in the scandal. But the Vatican denies the reports. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Terror charges

Cleric denied bail in Britain

A British judge denied bail to Abu Qatada, saying he could not risk having him out during the Olympics. Qatada has been described as an al-Qaida figure. He is fighting deportation to Jordan on terror charges. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Face-eating incident

Mental illness possible factor in Miami attack

A Miami policeman was in counselling Monday after he shot and killed a naked man cannibalizing a man's face.

"It was the most gruesome thing I've ever seen," said Sgt. Javier Ortiz, a supervising officer on the scene.

Ortiz, who is also VP of the Miami chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police, blamed "mental illness and drugs" for the attack. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Turkey

Israeli military leaders charged

A Turkish court on Monday pressed charges against high-ranking members of Israel's military for killing nine people aboard a Turkish ship. The ship was trying to break Israel's blockade of Gaza in 2010. They face nine consecutive life terms in Turkey for "inciting to kill monstrously." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Serbia. Rival leaders agree to overcome differences

Serbia's new nationalist president and the liberal rival likely to be the next prime minister assured the country Monday that they could overcome deep differences and create a stable, pro-European Union government.

Tomislav Nikolic defeated his predecessor Boris Tadic in the presidential election earlier this month, and Nikolic's nationalist Progressive Party won the largest number of seats in the 250-member parliament. But because Tadic's Democrats gained enough allies to form the next cabinet, Nikolic is expected to be forced to name Tadic as premier-designate.

The position of prime minister is stronger than that of the president, a largely ceremonial role that cannot draft laws.

The two bitter political foes met Monday, a day after Tadic announced the start of negotiations on the formation of a new government that would leave Nikolic without real power.

"We had very good talks," Tadic said. "This was a meeting not only about the transfer of power ... but about what Serbia's institutions should look like. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russia losing patience with Assad regime

Turning point. Foreign minister's comments in wake of slaughter unusually critical

A weekend massacre of more than 100 people emerged as a potential turning point in the Syrian crisis Monday, galvanizing even staunch ally Russia to take an unusually hard line against President Bashar Assad's government.

Analysts said Russia may be warning Assad that he needs to change course or lose Moscow's support, which has been a key layer of protection for the Syrian government during the uprising that began in March 2011. Russia has grown increasingly critical of Damascus in recent months, but Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's latest comments were unusually strong. Although he said opposition forces have terrorists among them, he put the blame for 15 months of carnage primarily on Assad's government.

UN special envoy Kofi Annan, left, and Norwegian Maj. Gen. Robert Mood, head of the UN observer team in Syria, are seen in Damascus. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The government bears the main responsibility for what is going on," Lavrov said in Moscow following a meeting with British Foreign Secretary William Hague. "Any government in any country bears responsibility for the security of its citizens."

Alexei Malashenko, a Middle East expert with the Carnegie Moscow Center, said Lavrov's comments suggest Russia may be backing away from its long-standing support for Damascus. "Bashar has definitely gotten the sense that he may lose Russia's sympathy, and he may step back a bit," Malashenko said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Constitutional battle ignites turmoil in Nepal

Activists of the Nepal Students' Union burn an effigy of Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai as they demand his resignation in Katmandu on Monday. Nepal sank into political turmoil after lawmakers failed to agree on a new constitution, leaving the country with no legal government. The premier called for new elections, but critics said he lacked the power to do so. NIRANJAN SHRESTHA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Qatar fire. Rescuers unable to reach 13 children trapped in upscale mall

Qatar's Interior Ministry said 13 children were among 19 people killed in a fire that broke out in one of the country's fanciest shopping malls late Monday morning, raising questions about building safety in the booming Gulf state.

At least some of the victims died as rescuers struggled to reach a child care centre at the Villaggio mall in the capital Doha, according to Qatar's Minister of State for Interior Affairs, Sheik Abdullah bin Nasser Al Thani.

"We tried our best, but when we got there, the children were trapped inside. We are very sorry for what happened. We tried as much as we could to save these people," Sheik Abdullah told reporters in Doha. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The father of a child killed in a mall fire in Doha, Qatar, on Monday. OSAMA FAISAL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Leadership

RIM loses another senior executive

Research In Motion Ltd. is losing another senior executive as its chief legal officer is retiring amid reports RIM may announce a major restructuring this week, a move that could result in thousands of job cuts.

RIM said Monday that Karima Bawa had been in discussions about her retirement for some time and plans to stay on to help with the transition once a replacement has been hired.

Bawa's retirement follows the departure last week of Patrick Spence, the BlackBerry maker's head of global sales. Changes in the senior leadership at RIM follow the appointment of Heins as RIM's president and chief executive earlier this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jobs

2,000

Several reports have suggested RIM will cut at least 2,000 jobs at its operations around the globe as part of a massive restructuring. The cuts would follow a move last year to axe roughly 2,000 jobs. The company has about 16,500 employees.

Market Minute

DOLLAR
97.68¢ US (+0.55¢)

TSX
11,566.15 (-10.32)

OIL
$91.15 US (+29¢)

GOLD
$1,573 US (+$4.10)

Natural gas: $2.556 US (-7.1¢)
Dow Jones: Closed

Facebook founder's candid cameo

Social-media sites and blogs have lit up after eagle-eyed viewers spotted a surprise cameo in a Chinese TV documentary about the country's police force: Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and his now-wife, Priscilla Chan, seen here in this image taken from undated CCTV video. The footage shows the couple wearing the same clothes they were photographed in during a March 27 visit to Shanghai. HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tories table bill to end CP strike

Labour dispute.
'The work stoppage is preventing our ability to keep products moving in and out of Canada': Labour minister

Labour Minister Lisa Raitt says the government must act now to end a strike by 4,800 Canadian Pacific Railway workers in order to preserve the country's international reputation.

The Harper government has tabled back-to-work legislation, the third time it has intervened in a labour dispute in similar fashion in the last year.

With legislation introduced after question period on Monday, Raitt said she expects the railroad to be back in business by Thursday. Mediated contract talks between the railway and the Teamsters union representing locomotive engineers and conductors collapsed Sunday.

The union says the company is demanding up to a 40 per cent cut in the earned pensions of employees, after making a $570-million profit last year.

"We've spent out entire careers paying for this, contributing to this and relying on this," said Doug Finnson, union vice-president and chief negotiator. "And because the shareholders want increased value, they want to squeeze it out of our pension plan and then put it over to the shareholders."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Front-office turmoil

The labour unrest comes amid front-office turmoil that saw CP's chief executive officer Fred Green and much of the old company board forced out by an investor revolt, led by New York-based investor Bill Ackman of Pershing Square Capital Management LP.

- The departing CEO, who Ackman accused of running an underperforming company, walked away with an $18-million severance package, a point noted by Liberal House leader Marc Garneau.

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A PUFF TO EASE THE PAIN

SHE SAYS...
Jessica Napier
metronews.ca/shesays

A few years ago, my father was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. I can't really pinpoint the exact date, because it took a good two years for my mother to stop referring to his illness as "MS-like symptoms" and actually start saying "MS."

Over time I've watched his ability to walk deteriorate. In 2010 we took a family trip to Cambodia and I saw him scale the temple walls at Angkor Wat from sunrise to sunset. Last weekend I helped him as he struggled to lift himself out of a Muskoka chair.

Sometimes I think about whether my father will be able to walk me down the aisle at my wedding, or whether he'll even be alive to witness it. Then, of course, I immediately stop thinking about those things, as they lead to crying fits in public places.

The more I'm confronted with the realities of this all-too-common autoimmune disease, the more desperate I'm becoming in my devouring of information about anything that might help.

High Times

"While other parents read DARE pamphlets about the perils of drug abuse to their children, my father enjoyed a monthly subscription to High Times magazine."

Last week, the University of California released a study demonstrating the benefits of marijuana for individuals suffering from MS. The study found that patients who smoked cannabis once a day experienced a significant reduction in muscle tightness and other painful symptoms associated with MS.

As a hippie, my father was practising this form of self-medication a good 40-something years before he was ever diagnosed. The only real difference is now he has a medical-marijuana licence and a copy of the Canadian Medical Association Journal to back him up.

While other parents read DARE pamphlets about the perils of drug abuse to their children, my father enjoyed a monthly subscription to High Times magazine. Marijuana was never an after-school-special kind of conversation topic in my house — it wasn't cool or dangerous, it was just simply there. Consequently, I had no interest in it. After all, what's the point of teenage rebellion if the person you're trying to revolt against is munching on "special" cookies in your living room?

I've never judged him for smoking it and I certainly don't now. Watching him self-medicate his way through this disease has changed the way I think about drugs and pain. In fact, it's changed my outlook on a lot of things in my life.

It makes me want to take the stairs every day, knowing that perhaps one day I won't be able to. It inspires me to run outside even when I'm feeling lazy — not because I should, but because I can.

Weird news

Rest in Presley peace

For the right price, you or a loved one can rest in peace in the tomb of the King.

Celebrity auctioneer Darren Julien is selling Elvis Presley's original crypt to the highest bidder as part of his Music Icons auction later this month.

The tomb is located inside the granite and marble mausoleum at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Memphis, Tenn.

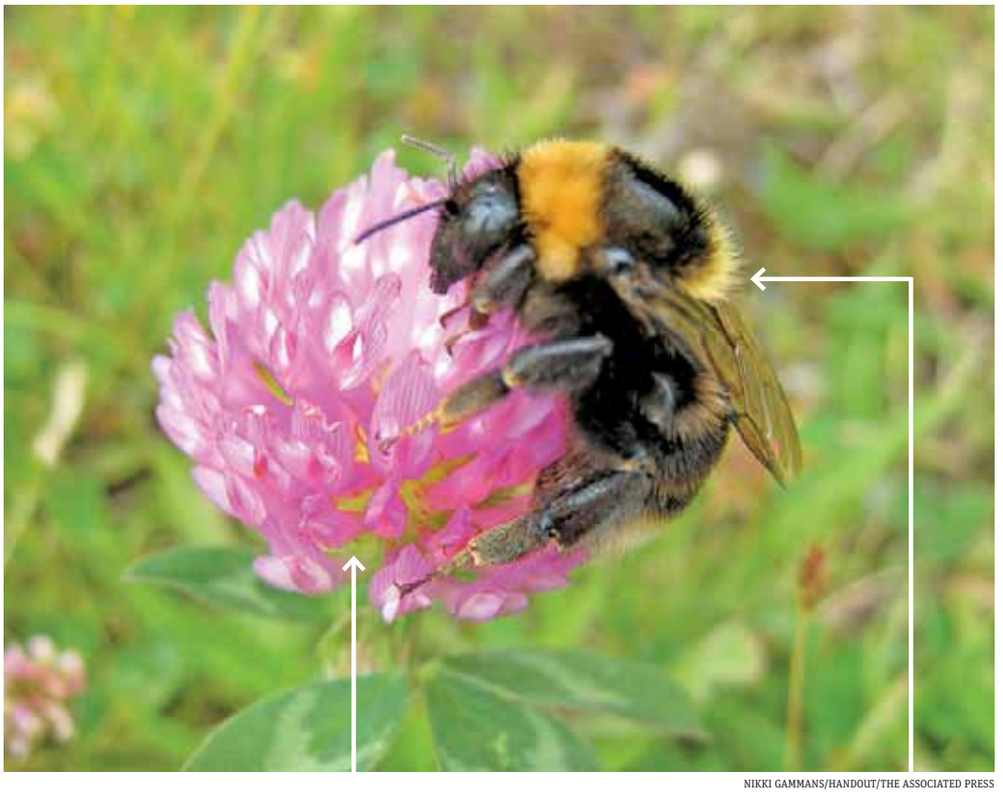
Presley was interred there alongside his mother, Gladys, after he died Aug. 16, 1977. Two months later, they were re-buried at his Graceland home. The original crypt has remained empty ever since.

Elvis Presley's crypt.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Julien says the winning bid from the auction beginning June 23 will receive the crypt, the opening and closing of the vault for burial, a memorialization inscription, and use of a chapel for a committal service. Transportation and funeral-home charges are not included.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bees do it best in clover



NIKKI GAMMANS/HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Homecoming buzz

The bees are back in Britain

They've been away, but now they are — hopefully — buzzing back to their rightful place in the bucolic British countryside.

Around 50 short-haired bees were released into an English nature reserve Monday, some two decades after they were wiped out from most of rural Britain.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wild-flower welcome

"Our farmland always used to have wild-flower borders. We are just asking farmers to go back to the way things were and the response has been overwhelmingly positive."

Nikki Gammans, ecologist and project leader

Betting the farm

- Ecologists hope that with the support of farmers who have agreed to grow flowers and plants that help bees flourish, the bugs will zip across the country again.
- The population of short-haired bees — scientific name Bombus subterraneus — has declined dramatically across most of Europe the last two decades as its habitat was destroyed.

Born to be the Bombus

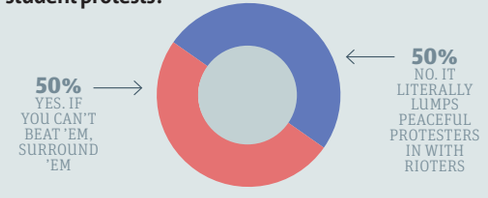
12

Bombus subterraneus were declared extinct in Britain 12 years ago. But the short-haired bees survived in Skane, Sweden, and three years ago, Natural England, a U.K. government-backed conservation project, launched a program to bring them back into the wild. The bees that made it through the screening process were released into the wild Monday in a nature reserve in Dungeness, Kent, in southeast England, filled with wild flowers like red clover, white dead nettle, yellow flag and tufted vetches.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should police be allowed to kettle protesters, a tactic used during the G20 and recent Montreal student protests?



Twitter

@DJAngelDeuce
Vancouver weather got me down :(oh wells nothing a little coffee and goodfreinds can't fix #aww-yeah

@majomo
Found some Yorkshire Tea in a British foodstore in Vancouver. Brought Branston Pickle instead. #TetleyTID! @CHRISDJMOYLES @ellandroadls11

@wilsonrobyn
Apparently I forgot to pack a jacket. This should make the ferry ride from Vancouver to Victoria a chilly one. #doh

@ALS_BC
Thank you to everyone who participated in #Richmond /Vancouver #Walk for#ALS saturday! Such a beautiful day for a very successful Walk!

@VIAwesome
RT @mayorgregor: Thanks to @CoryMonteith @richardbranson for investing inyouth at risk in #Vancouver! @ProjLimelight

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Kristen Stewart plays Snow White in Snow White and the Huntsman, opening Friday. HANDOUT

Rookie director steps into fairy tale land

Snow White. First-time director Rupert Sanders talks about being handed the keys to Universal's $175 million project

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

In researching his visually distinctive debut film, Snow White and the Huntsman, British director Rupert Sanders avoided one animated classic in particular.

"I actually haven't seen the Walt Disney (Snow White) for ages because I didn't want to be tarnished by it," he says.

"I looked at other filmmakers, like Roman Polanski's Macbeth. I watched Kingdom of Heaven. I think I set out trying not to make a big commercial fairy tale movie, but I wanted to make a big, Lawrence of Arabia kind of medieval tale, and that's really what I think the film is."

But certainly Universal Pictures — which is betting a lot giving a first-time director the keys to a $175 million fantasy film — is hoping for at least in part a big commercial fairy-tale movie.

"Universal have been an incredible partner to work with," Sanders insists.

"First of all, they wrote a massive cheque for a novice to take a lot of their money and go over to Europe untouched and make a film. They've been very trusting."

Of course, part of that trust can be attributed to the Snow White in the title, since the source material continues to be hugely popular.

So what is it about that fairy tale that keeps drawing audiences — and studio executives — back?

"It's the best fairy tale, really. I don't really like them when they get too princess-y. I don't love balls and sleeping beauties and things like that," Sanders says.

"It's one of those stories that is about the human condition. It's about so many of those emotions that we go through — jealousy, the way we look," Sanders says.

"I think in a way it's more relevant today than it was. Everything is so image-obsessed… I hope it has the same lesson in life to our young people. It teaches you a lot about how to cope with the human condition, how to cope with death, basically."

So what's next for Sanders? "I am done with fairy tales," Sanders says with a weary laugh.

So what will he do for a second feature film? "I'd love to make something contemporary or sci-fi, which is my favourite genre. You can make a film that's sociopolitical without it being a rant. You can put a bigger magnifying glass on our world now if you put the story 100 years in the future."

Of course, if Snow White and the Huntsman is a hit, he might not be as done with fairy tales as he suggests. "Who knows. I think it will be hard for me not to go back into the Snow White world if that world appeared again," Sanders admits.

"It's its own story. If there's a desire for people to want to continue with those characters — I think there will be, they're such great characters, they're well-played."

Of course, there's at least one obstacle to a possible sequel to the fairy tale film: "A couple of people end up dead, so I'd have to fill those shoes," he says.

Quoted

"It's the best fairy tale, really. I don't really like them when they get too princess-y. I don't love balls and sleeping beauties and things like that."

Director Rupert Sanders on the enduring quality of the Snow White tale

Updating the story

There's no damsel in distress here

The days of the damsel in distress are clearly over. Audiences have already seen a Snow White take up arms, with Lily Collins dueling with — and besting — her Prince Charming in Mirror, Mirror in March. But in Snow White and the Huntsman, the fairy tale princess (played by Twilight star Kristen Stewart) goes to war.

What really sets Rupert Sanders' film apart — aside from the stark visuals and brutal violence — is its take on the core theme of beauty and a woman's obsession with it. Even in the Brothers Grimm version, the Queen is threatened by Snow White's natural allure, but Sanders takes it even further. Charlize Theron's evil Queen Ravenna stays young and beautiful by sucking the life out of younger women, and she's hoping to cure her aging problem for good by consuming the heart of her stepdaughter.

Full of imaginative and nightmarish visual effects, massive battles and epic landscapes, Snow White and the Huntsman is by far the more ambitious of the two Snow White films — which is surprising, given that the lackluster Mirror, Mirror was helmed by the usually distinctive and daring Tarsem Singh.

DVD reviews

Goon

Director. Michael Dowse

Stars. Seann William Scott, Jay Baruchel, Alison Pill

In the very violent, very funny and exceedingly profane Goon, Canadian-born director Michael Dowse (the man behind the Fubar films) tells the story of a genial knucklehead named Doug Glatt who's a bar bouncer in a small Massachusetts town. When Doug unleashes the fury of his fists in aid of his mouthy best friend (Jay Baruchel, who also shares co-writing credits with Evan Goldberg), he's spotted by the coach of the very minor-league local team (Nicholas Campbell). The wily coach coaxes Doug to play for his brother's hockey team, the Halifax Highlanders, who are sorely in need of a miracle. Doug's only task is to beat up anyone who stands in the way of the Highlanders' top scorer, who has recently lost his mojo. Sweet-hearted Doug, well played by Scott, is proud to both draw and spill red on behalf of his team. Goon looks set to skate alongside Slap Shot as another movie that really gets the spirit of hockey's animal attraction.

PETER HOWELL

We Need to Talk About Kevin

Director. Lynne Ramsay

Stars. Tilda Swinton, John C. Reilly, Ezra Miller

Adapting Lionel Shriver's bestselling 2003 novel, director Lynne Ramsay examines the school shootings phenomenon from the point of view of parents left emotionally and physically brutalized by the aftermath. Travel writer Eva Khatchadourian (Tilda Swinton, spectacular) and her photographer husband Franklin (John C. Reilly, skating) thought they'd left all their cares behind when they moved from New York City to a big house in the suburbs. They wanted a place to raise their son, Kevin. Kevin, though fine with his father, has a toxic relationship with his mother. We Need to Talk About Kevin offers few deep insights into a violent phenomenon for which, in truth, there may be no satisfactory answers.

PETER HOWELL

2 SCENE

Scene in brief

De Niro given honorary degree

As he received an honourary doctorate Sunday, Oscar-winning actor Robert De Niro told Bates College graduates that despite his own lack of formal education, he made out OK. During a 15-minute address that was by turns sincere and irreverent, De Niro drew a steady stream of laughter from the 463 graduating seniors and more than 5,000 onlookers at the private, liberal arts college's campus. De Niro, who quit high school to pursue an acting career, was one of three high-profile guests who received honorary degrees at the Bates commencement. PBS Newshour senior correspondent Gwen Ifill and Princeton University molecular biologist Bonnie Bassler also were honoured. But it was De Niro who stole the show as he received an honorary doctorate of fine arts degree. "In many ways, leaving school when I did it was an advantage. I saved nearly $6,000 by not having to pay tuition and expenses for four years of education," he said. "I feel a little foolish, because if I had waited until now not to go to college, I could have saved around a quarter of a million," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Michael Haneke's Amour wins Cannes Film Festival Palme d'Or

Edward Cullen no longer — Pattinson gets serious in new Cronenberg flick

Cosmopolis. British actor talks about almost throwing up from nerves on his first few days working with storied director

JÉRÔME VERMELIN
Metro World News in Cannes

Robert Pattinson flexes his acting chops in the David Cronenberg film Cosmopolis. GETTY IMAGES

Twilight's Edward Cullen in a David Cronenberg film — who? What? How? We asked the star himself. In Cosmopolis, Robert Pattinson plays a billionaire riding around a limo in NYC, on an odyssey that includes guns, sex and anal probes.

Twilight and David Cronenberg. The two are worlds apart. Is Cosmopolis the start of a new career for you?
Just being here, representing the film, is amazing. For a young actor like myself, for people that love films, Cannes is the ultimate festival. As for my career, it's definitely the start of something new.

Your career began in England, but took off in Hollywood. Do you think all young actors dream of Cannes?
Maybe not... until the day their film is selected! In the U.S., Cannes gets very little coverage. It's more of an industry event. In London on the other hand, it's huge. The weird thing is the amount of people that applaud the film at the end of the screening. I went to see On The Road and I was really stunned. In the U.S., people walk out the moment the closing credits appear.

Cronenberg didn't make you rehearse. He says he wanted to see where the film was headed as it was being shot. Didn't that scare you?
I understand why he did that. It's a very complex scenario that could have been interpreted in many different ways. David didn't say much about what he wanted me to do. The first few days, I was terrified. We were doing camera tests and I was sat in the limousine with nothing to do… and I nearly threw up! My heart was racing. I was scared David would fire me, that he would think I was an imposter. But he was very relaxed. His team told me how the first couple of weeks, he never really knows what he's doing, but not to worry about it. He just needs time to get the feel of things. Once we got going, the pace got faster and faster. By the end we were only doing one take per scene. It was crazy.

Fan work

Pattinson's love for Cronenberg

As the story goes, Robert Pattinson signed up to do Cosmopolis without reading the script first because he's such a big Cronenberg fan. Is there truth to that? Well, Pattinson is a big Cronenberg fan, but he did read the Cosmopolis script first. "Just last week my agent asked me if I was ready to be in David's next film. I said yes without thinking about it first. On the other hand, I read the script for Cosmopolis, a year before David offered me the part and I thought it was amazing. From the very first time I read it, I felt some sort of connection. Like it was reaching out to me. I don't know why."

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Justin Bieber MATT SAYLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bad Bieber: Did the star lay a smackdown?

Justin Bieber may have finally had enough of photographers.

The singer is a suspect in a criminal battery case after getting into a "physical altercation" with a paparazzo in Los Angeles on Sunday afternoon, according to the police report.

The "victim complained of pain and requested medical attention" and was released shortly after being taken to the hospital.

We're curious: Is there enough money in Bieber's bank account for you to admit that his baby-soft hands were capable of inflicting pain?

Lady Gaga. GETTY IMAGES

Lady Gaga 'devastated' about cancelled concert

After weeks of protest from a religious group, Lady Gaga decided to cancel a tour stop in Jakarta, Indonesia.

"There is nothing holy about hatred," she posted on Twitter, explaining her decision. "We had to cancel the concert in Indonesia. I'm so very sorry to the fans and just as devastated as you if not more. You are everything to me. I will try to put together something special for you."

The protesting group, the Islamic Defenders Front, insisted Gaga is a "devil's messenger" and claimed that her image would "destroy the country's morals."

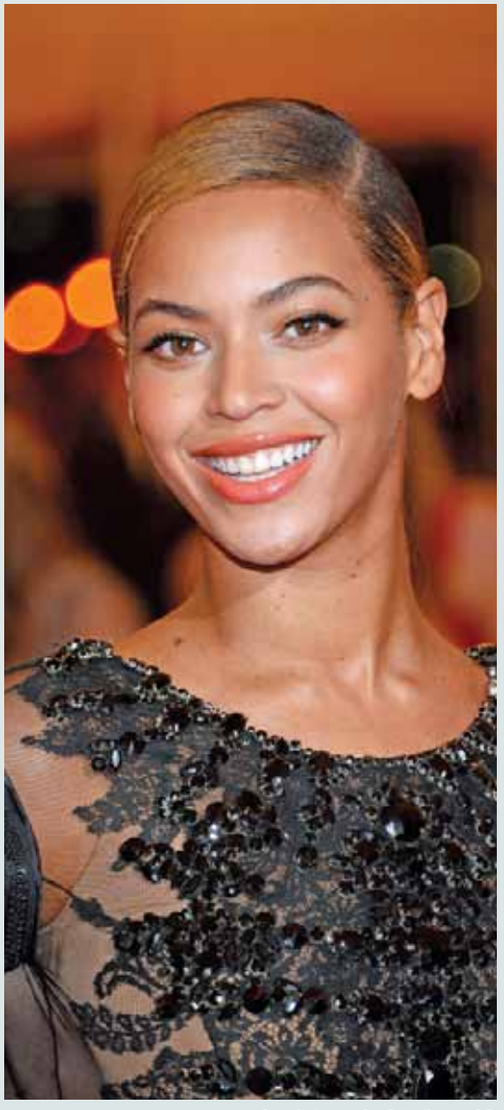
They promised "chaos" if the concert went ahead as planned.

A star speaks

"There is nothing holy about hatred."

Lady Gaga posted on Twitter

The Word



Beyoncé is human? Hard to believe

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

Radiant new mama Beyoncé was back on the stage for a four-night engagement at Atlantic City's Revel casino over the holiday weekend, and she didn't forget to pack her signature assortment of sparkly two-piece bodysuits and sky-high heels.

But the singer admits it wasn't easy to get in beach shape by Memorial Day weekend.

"Y'all have no idea how hard I worked," she told her audience — which included Michelle, Sasha and Malia Obama — during her Saturday evening performance.

"I had to lose 60 pounds. They had me on that treadmill. I ate lettuce! Now tonight I'm going to get chocolate wasted."

Now, we always thought the rumours that Beyoncé hired a surrogate and faked her pregnancy were crazy (unless it was a particularly slow gossip day).

But can you imagine this lady at a gym or eating anything as lowly as lettuce?

If she is, in fact, human, we're having a hard time believing Beyoncé had a baby in January.

Justin Bieber and Jessica Biel GETTY IMAGES

Justin and Jessica throw lavish to-do before saying 'I do'

Jessica Biel and Justin Timberlake celebrated their plans to marry with a star-studded engagement party over the weekend, according to Us Weekly. The guest list included pals like Lance Bass, JC Chasez, Trace Ayala, Ellen DeGeneres, Portia DeRossi and Amy Adams, who dined on snacks by Wolfgang Puck. "Jessica and Justin were mingling both separately and together throughout the party," a source says. "Jessica seems to be very close with Justin's friends and vice versa. You can see that they have been dating for a long time and really know each other's friends and family well. The party was a fun celebration and a preview of what's to come with the wedding."

Britney Spears GETTY IMAGES

Queen of the unexplained exit?

Britney Spears' X Factor tenure is off to a rough start. After allegedly storming off the set after a contestant's rendition of one of her hits the first day of filming — a claim she denied on Twitter — Spears reportedly made another sudden exit on her second day, according to Us Weekly. "After a very popular contestant finished, Brit stood up and immediately walked towards the tunnel where judges enter," a source says.

"Her bodyguards (and entourage) jumped up and ran after her. She was moving fast. It was odd." While the reason for her departure was unclear, the source says Spears returned after a short while and resumed her work as though nothing had happened.

Twitter

@justinbieber
am i about to be doing free shows around the world to surprise fans?? hmmm.

@ActuallyNPH
In the Just So You Know Department: incessantly tweeting me to respond to you will almost assuredly achieve the opposite result.

@Joan_Rivers
I hate that the Indy 500 takes place over Memorial Day Weekend. Name one Civil-War soldier who could drive a race car.

@MissKellyO
Always wear your cutest pajamas to bed you'll never know who you'll meet in your dreams!

3 LIFE

Skin care

Live Clean introduces Fresh Face

Live Clean, the Canadian brand known for its eco-friendly, plant-based personal care products, introduces Live Clean (Fresh Face), an eight-product collection of eco-friendly skin care products for your face. With five years and more than 60 products since its founding, Live Clean introduces skin care to its exceptional collection of products for hair and body. "We've been thinking about skin care for a long time now and Live Clean (Fresh Face) has been two years in active development," says Executive Vice President Michelle Sparrock. "But just as we did with our baby care collection, we proceeded with caution; wanting to be sure we got it absolutely right." The eight-product Fresh Face collection – including foaming daily cleanser, deep cleansing clay masque, smoothing facial scrub, and refreshing facial toner among others – offers the right product for every skin care need.All Live Clean (Fresh Face) products are made without many commonly used chemicals such as Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS), a common harsh irritant petrochemical surfactant used in most shampoos and skin care products, as well as Diethanolamine. For more information, check out live-clean.com.

METRO

On the Web

When packing a portable feast ensure picnic food is safe by keeping it cold

Imagine a world where you ate right, exercised and had great sex. Unfortunately, the smug and happy are in the minority. Most of us are stressed out, sexually frustrated and regulars at KFC. According to Dr. Oz, getting healthy isn't about living longer, it's about living and looking better today.

DR. OZ'S SEVEN DAYS, SEVEN WAYS TO A BRIGHTER YOU

When was the last time you went for a health checkup? A month? A year? America's top doctor, Dr. Oz, talks to Metro about the basic steps to feeling and looking great.

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
romina.mcguinness@metro.lu

1 What's up Doc?

A staggering third of Americans skip their yearly health check-up. But thinking ignorance is bliss could really mess you up.

Being "too busy" is the most common excuse for failing to go to the doctors says Dr. Oz, but the truth is people don't want to be inconvenienced with bad news.

"Who wants to hear they have cancer? What people don't get is that a doctor is there to guide you to better health, not make you feel bad or embarrassed. They help you understand your health so you can prevent problems in the future."

2 Watch your waist

Everyone should know their weight and BMI (Body Mass Index). Although weight can vary, BMI should always be below 25. Anything above 30 or below 18.5 means you risk developing type 2 diabetes or heart disease.

According to Dr. Oz the most important thing to monitor is waist size: "Waist size predicts the amount of fat inside the intestines: it should be no more than half your height. It's the most dangerous type of fat for your body. Stored in excess, it can put pressure on the kidneys, which can then raise your blood pressure and can also poison the liver, leading to higher cholesterol levels and diabetes."

3 The pressure of peer pressure

Studies have shown that people who lost weight by engaging in group activities were more successful at keeping it off in the long term.

"The moment you go public about your proclamation of health, you're holding yourself accountable," explains Dr. Oz. "Friends won't sabotage your efforts, but on the contrary be inspired by your achievements."

Another thing to watch out for is habits.

"Habits are the 'norm' but whether they're good or bad it is down to you. If your friends eat pizza and drink beer every night, you'll associate this with 'normal' behavior. But if all your friends pick the treadmill over the cheesy crust — will that pizza still taste so good?" asks Dr. Oz. You decide.

4 Get more zzz ...

Sleep is the most important thing we need and the single thing we lack the most: "Seven and a half hours a night is an ideal amount. If you've trouble sleeping it could be a sign something is holding you back either physically or psychologically," says Dr Oz. "If all else fails, try and ease your body into rest. Fifty per cent of people sleep better in colder temperatures, wearing loose clothes or no clothes and having dimmed the lights 30 minutes before going to bed. Heat and tight clothes prevent motion and make you feel uncomfortable."

But what about binge sleep? "Binge sleeping is fine as long as it's done within the week during which you lacked sleep. Done outside of that, it

risks throwing off your body clock and your body will think its been to a different time zone," explains Dr Oz.

5 Exercise: all it takes is 7 easy minutes

Emotionally satisfied people have one thing in common: they all set aside a few minutes a day of "me time," mostly in the morning.

Dr. Oz advises you to spend seven minutes every morning doing a combination of yoga, push ups and sit ups.

"Morning is the one time of day when you are still in control of your destiny. Seven minutes of light exercise is enough to reduce stress levels and make you feel as if you are in control of your life."

Why seven minutes? Don't we have to sweat it out for at least 20?

"We all have seven minutes to spare in the morning. It's also enough time to increase heart rate. If you want to exercise more, you don't have to run a marathon but something as simple as a brisk walk for 30-60 minutes, five times a week can lower your risk of heart disease by about 40 per cent."

6 Assess your stress

Stress alone could be the reason why you can't lose weight. It affects the neuroendocrine system that increases the amount of fat stored around the abdomen. It's also indirectly linked to the consumption of too many fatty or sugary foods, as well as inactivity.

"Some of us are comfortable being uncomfortable. Instead of running away from stress we need to embrace the discomfort. The only solution to getting over it is to come up with better coping strategies that force you to manage your stress such as assertiveness training, or even better — exercise."

7 Mind your genes

You may be healthy, but your genes may say otherwise. Family history is critical in diagnosing and preventing illnesses. A blood relative under 65 years of age is a good reference point. Once you know your weaknesses, Dr. Oz recommends you customize your lifestyle around them. "If your father died of lung cancer at the age of 60 because he smoked, take this as a sign that your genes don't protect you against smoking."

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Traditional Indian fare gets modern (& healthy) makeover

Curry Bowl with two curries — Chic Pea and Be Green Spinach ($9.99). ERIN IRELAND

LUNCH RUSH
Erin Ireland
life@metronews.ca

You know those nights when you're sitting on the couch wishing dinner would somehow materialize before you?

It's then when I consider my list of delivery options: Pizza? Too greasy. Sushi? Had it last night. Greek? They don't deliver. Indian? Yes! Then I call Rasoee for its 'green' bicycle delivery.

Luckily for Gastown lunchers, the modern Indian chain has launched a fourth location on Abbott. Evening delivery option aside, its chic space (throw cushions and all) is perfect for sit-down lunches.

But don't expect ultra traditional dishes as much as great flavours.

The Curry Bowl with two curries (both gluten-free and all natural) was enough for lunch and leftovers. Pictured are the Chic Pea and Be Green Spinach Curries on rice with whole wheat naan (an appreciated healthier option).

The former was light with a thin, fragrant sauce and hearty chickpeas. The rich Be Green Curry carried heat, but felt like silk going down — its smooth spinach had been cooked to a sauce-like texture.

Visiting the restaurant

Rasoee

Address. 515 Abbott St.

Phone. 604-669-1444

Rating. 4/5

Price range. $

Reservations. No

Business lunch. Yes

Lunch with co-workers. Yes

Quick solo lunch. Yes

Tex-Mex Chicken Sandwich. Perfect way to add zest to each bite

1. In bowl, toss chicken with black beans, corn, cheddar cheese, green onion, salsa and sour cream until combined.

2. Divide chicken mix equally among four slices of bread. Top each with avocado, tomato and spinach leaves. Top with remaining bread slices. **MAPLE LEAF FOODS, DEMPSTER'S BREAD/ THE CANADIAN PRESS/ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (FOR MORE VISIT, EMILYRICHARDSCOOK.CA)**

Ingredients

4 servings

- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) chopped fully cooked chicken strips
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) cooked black beans
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) thawed frozen corn
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 green onion, chopped
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) each salsa and sour cream
- 8 slices whole-grain bread
- 1 avocado, sliced
- 1 large tomato, sliced
- 250 ml (1 cup) baby spinach leaves

Champagne etiquette

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

**Hello Mr. Butler,
I am going to be hosting an event for my parents' 50th wedding anniversary at my home and I'm in need of some champagne etiquette. What's the right temperature, what kind of glasses should I get, how much do I fill a glass and how do I make a toast?
Thanks!
Nervous Daughter**

Dear Nervous Daughter,

What an exciting event! Good champagne should be served cold, so keeping it in the fridge for a few days then on ice at the bar when it is being served is important.

When opening the champagne never point it at anyone and hold the "cage" and the cork tight with a napkin while slowly turning the bottle. You will feel the pressure build up and the cork will pop out easily.

When serving, you can use either a champagne flute or saucer, though the "fashion" of today is flutes.

When you pour champagne, it foams up (just like pop) so pour slowly and just a small amount in every glass — this is called "priming" the glass. Then return and fill the flute with additional champagne. Don't fill the glass more than three-quarters full.

When you toast your parents, you technically don't let the glasses touch each other, however many people unfortunately do "clink" glasses.

Keep your speech short, to the point and annunciate clearly, ask everyone to raise their glass and say something like "to our parents" and then have a sip and voila — your toast is done!

Let us know how it goes. If you write to me I will do my best to guide you and your group through the process!

Champagne should always be served cold. ISTOCK

Advice

Here's an idea: Try Google

I'm planning a holiday with my new boyfriend, so I asked my old boyfriend for a recommendation because I want to go to an area he introduced me to (we dated long-distance six years ago). Our relationship was brief and he's been in a long-term relationship for a few years now, and I've been supportive and happy for him — and yet he got annoyed at me for considering a holiday in his area with my new boyfriend! Is it me, or is he a childish twit? Hmmph

TWO SISTERS
Andrea and Claire
Life@metronews.ca

Andrea: Dear Girl Needs Tour Guide, I'm going to shock you here, but there's a little thing called the internet. On this "web," you can find great advice on where to go and what to do in virtually any city. Isn't that amazing? In the past we all had to ask our ex-boyfriends what they liked to do because it was probably what our current boyfriends would want to do as well.

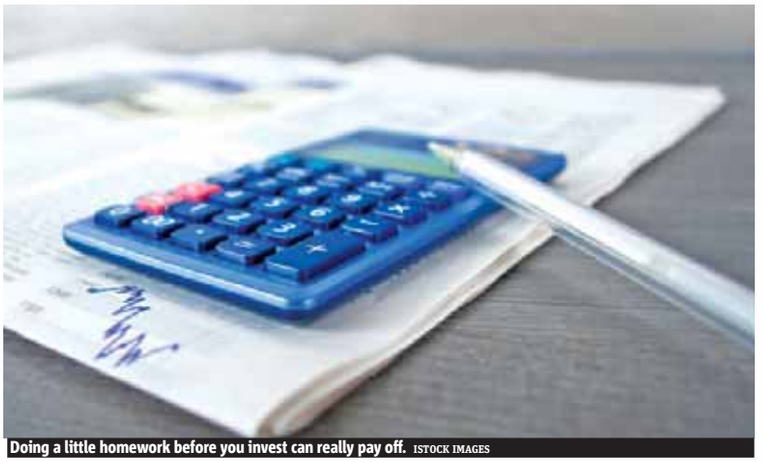
Why create new, romantic memories, when you could relive old ones in a friendly game of "deal with my baggage?"

OK, I'll stop being mean here, but asking your ex for advice was a little insensitive. He doesn't own the city, but it doesn't mean you have to rub it in his face that you're a globe-trotting hottie with a new love in tow. Happy travels!

Claire: Dear Hmmph
I'm not sure whether you should be astounded that he actually cares enough to be offended so many years later, or annoyed that he should make this about him (which might just be categorized under "twit-like"). I'm surprised he has a problem with a little friendly tour-guiding — especially if you've stayed in touch regularly enough to know that he's in a new and happy relationship, but since he does, tease him about it to keep things light, and move on. And take it as a compliment to your enduring awesomeness.

And yes, try that internet thing. It's super useful.

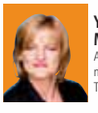
Pay down your mortgage.



Doing a little homework before you invest can really pay off. ISTOCK IMAGES

Putting your pot of gold to work

Divide and conquer. Invest any windfall slowly. You might miss out on some gains but you won't fall into an abyss



YOUR MONEY
Alison Griffiths
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Twitter: @alisononmoney

Last week I offered my two cents worth of advice to a woman wondering what to do with a divorce settlement of $20,000. I encouraged her to take time deciding whether to pay down debt, save, spend or invest.

Now I have some suggestions about the latter. Investing a lump sum can be tricky. For instance, an investment made in September 2007 on the eve of the financial crash may still be in the negative.

Divide any windfall into pieces and invest gradually to spread your risk over time. It's far better to miss out on some gains than fall into an abyss.

My choice for most investors is Exchanged Traded Funds or ETFs with very low fees.

Alison's money rule

"Investing over time reduces your risk and increases your return."

Most are lower than .50 annually compared to the average Canadian mutual fund fees of 2.25 to 2.5 per cent annually.

These products simply mimic an index like Canada's S&P/TSX Composite. There are also bond ETFs. (ETFs trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange just like shares of a company and you will pay a trading fee to buy units.)

Three ETFs are all you need, one for Canada, one for the U.S. and one for bonds. Here's a small selection among the dozens available. Don't stress, just pick one for each area and you'll have a nice, well-rounded portfolio. The ticker symbol and management fee are in brackets.

Canada

- Horizons BetaPro S&P/TSX 60 Index (HXT, .07%)

- Vanguard MSCI Canada Index (VCE, .09%)

- iShares S&P/TSX Composite Index (XIC, .25%)

US

-Vanguard US Broad Market Index (VUS, .15%)

-BMO Dow Jones Index (ZDJ, .23%)

-iShares S&P US Dividend Growers (CUD, .60%)

Bonds

- iShares DEX Short Term Bond Index (XSB, .25%)

- PowerShares 1-5 Year Laddered Investment Grade Corporate Bond Index (PSB, .25%)

- BMO Aggregate Bond Index (ZAG, .28%)

If, for example, you wanted one-third of the $20,000 in bonds, make that entire investment now as the short term bonds will roll over automatically and take advantage of higher rates in the future.

Divide the remaining $13,000 plus into four to six pieces and invest gradually in the chosen Canadian and US ETFs over the next six months to a year. There will be a trading fee for each transaction but you only pay it once until you sell, and the additional cost balances the risk.

ALISON GRIFFITHS IS THE AUTHOR OF COUNT ON YOURSELF: TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR MONEY. REACH HER AT ALISONGRIFFITHS.CA OR GRIFFITHS.ALISON@GMAIL.COM

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Are you 'young' at money?

Millennials — game your way to financial literacy

FUN AND FRUGAL
Leslie Scorgie
money@metronews.ca
Twitter: @Lesleyscorgie

I read an interesting article over tea last week in TheWeek.com that described characteristics of the millennial generation; those born in the 1980s and 1990s (of which I am one). Besides claiming that our generation is narcissistic, the piece outlines the fact that most are broke, indebted and stressed-out spendthrifts.

But, working in our favour is the fact that millennials are technologically savvy and want to engage in entrepreneurial and other money-making ideas.

So, here's my big idea for the millennials — game your way to financial literacy. Not only will you sharpen your money IQ, but you'll learn how to connect your big ideas with building your net worth. That in turn will reduce stress.

I've been very impressed with a new financial literacy gaming app called the Cranial Cash Clash which was created through the Investor Education Fund.

The Cranial Cash Clash is a free innovative online and mobile game that is available through Apple, Android or online at GetSmarterAboutMoney.ca. The purpose of the game is to help Canadians assess how much they really need to learn about money and which aspects of money management they should focus on improving.

The game leads you through fun and educational thought-provoking multiple choice questions that test your knowledge on a wide range of financial topics like spending, saving, investing, debt, financial fraud, financial planning, RRSPs and retirement planning.

The subjects are categorized as Debt Drama, Quest to Invest, Scam Exam, Saving for School, Investment Shopping, Concise Advice, Unsure? Insure! and Ready, Set, Retire. Once you're through the questions, there are resources you can browse through to enhance your learning.

Players compete to score cranial points; ideally motivating Canadians to raise their scores and their understanding of financial literacy. For the socially networked millennials, you can post your results on Facebook, Twitter or email them to friends. For parents and teachers, this is a great way to engage in 'money 101' conversations with your children.

No matter your age or financial acumen, you'll learn a lot through the Cranial Cash Clash and it's loads of fun. Gaming your way to financial literacy can actually pay off!

Get smart: Take a break from Angry Birds and learn some investing tricks. ISTOCK IMAGES

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4

SPORTS

Soccer

"Stay at home, watch it on TV. Don't even risk it ... because you could end up coming back in a coffin."

Former England defender Sol Campbell, warning fans in a BBC interview against travelling to Poland and Ukraine to watch the European Championship, claiming authorities are failing to tackle entrenched racism and violence in the countries.

NBA playoffs

Heat bowl over Celtics in Game 1 of East finals

LeBron James scored 32 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, Dwyane Wade scored 10 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter and the Heat beat the Celtics 93-79 on Monday night in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Montreal Canadiens GM Marc Bergevin continued to round out his front office with the hiring of Scott Mellanby as director of player personnel on Monday. Scan the code for the story.

Brown leads way on Kings' journey to promised land

Kings captain Dustin Brown reacts after his controversial hit on Phoenix's Michal Rozsival in overtime of Game 5 of the Western Conference final last week. JEFF GROSS/GETTY IMAGES

NHL. Regular-season trade rumours propelled L.A. captain to take his game to another level

If Dustin Brown stands up in the Los Angeles locker-room before the Stanley Cup final opener Wednesday night and delivers a stirring, emotional speech, his teammates won't know how to react.

"Well, he's not a rah-rah guy," veteran Kings defenceman Matt Greene said. "We don't have too many of those guys in the room. But he knows how to lead, and he does it by example."

Brown prefers showing to telling, whether it's with a timely goal or a bruising hit. The Los Angeles captain's playoff performance has demonstrated something quite clearly to the Kings: Behind his leadership they're capable of winning the franchise's first title.

Brown's hard-hitting, high-scoring play has been the biggest revelation of the post-season for the eighth-seeded Kings, but his quantum leap forward began during the regular season. Brown's run of stellar play started right after he was prominently featured in trade-deadline rumours linking him to Toronto and beyond, forcing the forward to wonder whether he would have to move his young family away from his only NHL team.

"Of course it's concerning to you, but I tried to just concentrate on what I could control," said Brown, the NHL's third-leading post-season scorer. "I just focused on hockey and getting this team to the playoffs, because I felt like we had a team that could do a lot if we got there and started playing together. We felt like we owed it to the fans here to take a shot instead of worrying."

The Kings' long-suffering fans are always near the forefront of Brown's mind when he discusses this playoff run. He realizes Los Angeles has enjoyed only one previous run to the final in 45 years, and he learned all about the Kings' paltry playoff success when he logged 431 regular-season games with the franchise before reaching his first post-season two years ago.

"This is the most successful we've been, but it's not where we want to end up," Brown said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lions sign trio, but can't lock up Fabien

Lions draft pick Jabar Westerman with Notre Dame Catholic school in Brampton, Ont., in 2006.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The B.C. Lions have signed their 2012 top draft pick Jabar Westerman to a contract, the CFL club announced Monday.

But the defending Grey Cup champions will have to do without their other first-round pick, University of Calgary offensive lineman Kirby Fabien, who announced he is returning to the Dinos for a third season.

Westerman, a 22-year-old defensive end from Brampton, Ont., was selected second overall in the CFL draft earlier this month after the Lions moved up in the selection order through a trade with the Edmonton Eskimos. He played the past two seasons at Eastern Michigan, where he recorded five sacks and 48 tackles, after toiling two campaigns at Dodge City College.

He is a potential replacement for defensive end Brent Johnson, who retired after 11 seasons. Born in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Westerman had to prove to the CFL that he had spent sufficient time growing up in Canada to be eligible for the draft, which is only open to Canadians. He moved to Brampton in 1999 while still in elementary school.

The Lions also tried to sign Fabien, a 21-year-old Calgary native who was chosen seventh, but the two sides were unable to get a deal done.

Quoted

"I appreciate being drafted by the Lions and look forward to the opportunity to play in B.C. in the future."

Lions draft pick Kirby Fabien, who will return to the University of Calgary for one more season

"I have determined that it is in my best interest to return to the University of Calgary for the 2012-13 year to allow me to complete my degree in economics," said Fabien in a news release issued by the university.

The Lions have also signed two other draft picks: Matt Norman, a 23-year-old University of Western Ontario offensive lineman, and University of Calgary fullback Jordan Verdone who went 37th overall.

Westerman, Norman and Verdone are slated to attend rookie camp, which begins Wednesday in Kamloops.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Manny might join Athletics later this week

Oakland Athletics manager Bob Melvin says there is a "50-50" chance suspended slugger Manny Ramirez will join the team when his 50-game drug ban expires Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis

Raonic through to Round 2 in Paris

Canadian Milos Raonic has already improved on last year's performance at the French Open.

The Thornhill, Ont., native powered past Ruben Ramirez Hidalgo of Spain 6-4, 6-2, 6-2, Monday to reach the second round of the tournament. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Milos Raonic GETTY IMAGES

MLB

Miami's Oviedo banned for fraud

Miami Marlins pitcher Juan Carlos Oviedo has been suspended for eight weeks by MLB for age and identity fraud. Oviedo was caught playing under a fake name and spent the off-season in the Dominican Republic clearing up his immigration status. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Memorial Cup

"I'm not going to take the credit personally.... You need 20 guys to win this tournament and that's what we did."

Shawinigan Cataractes centre Michael Chaput. Chaput was named tournament MVP after the Cataractes beat the London Knights 2-1 in overtime Sunday in the Memorial Cup championship game.

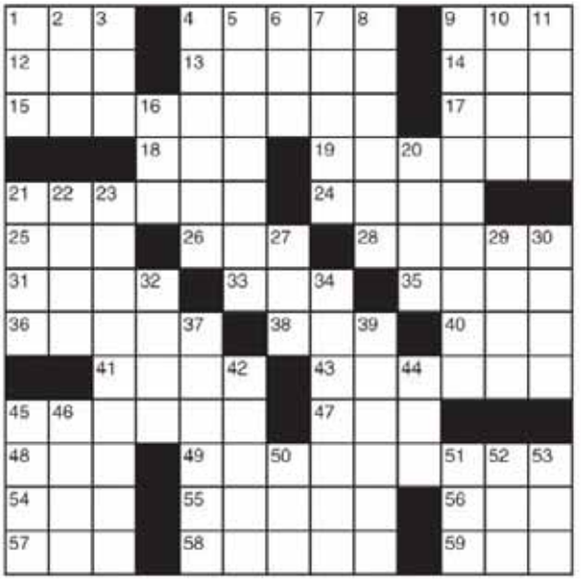
Crossword

Across

1 Kreskin's claim, briefly
4 Wanders
9 Aware
12 Boudreau of baseball
13 Otherwise
14 Can. neighbour
15 1957 Astaire movie
17 Crafty
18 Corn spike
19 Chops into small bits
21 Reflective power
24 Grad
25 Romanian money
26 Overactor
28 Flounder through puddles
31 Token of defiance
33 Papa
35 Elbow counterpart
36 Examine ore
38 Affirmative
40 Blunder
41 Support group?
43 Game participant
45 Sunday meal
47 Science workplace
48 Thither
49 Bees' structure
54 A billion years
55 Hackneyed
56 Retainer
57 Firmament
58 Handle the helm
59 Adipose tissue

Down

1 Sprite
2 Old French coin
3 Bit of wordplay
4 Capital of Saudi Arabia
5 On unpaved areas
6 Literary collection
7 Starbucks flavour
8 Pilfers
9 Bribe of a sort
10 Gilligan's home
11 Picks up the check
16 Born
20 Pout
21 Plankton component
22 Meadows
23 Thorn in Elmer Fudd's side
27 Spring time
29 Withered
30 Munich mister
32 Deserve
34 Use up
37 America's Cup contenders
39 Buffy, to vampires
42 Concise
44 Regis' network
45 Tournament situations
46 Chess piece
50 Never, in Nuremberg
51 Vacationing
52 — culpa
53 Wager



Sudoku

8	9			6		1		3
		6						8
5					4		2	
		8	9		1			
6				3				7
			6		2	9		
	7		5					2
4						3		
3		2		4			5	1

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

3	1	5	2	8	9	6	4	7
9	4	6	3	7	5	8	2	1
2	8	7	6	4	1	9	3	5
8	2	9	5	6	3	7	1	4
6	5	3	4	1	7	2	8	9
4	7	1	9	2	8	5	6	3
7	6	4	1	5	2	3	9	8
1	3	8	7	9	6	4	5	2
5	9	2	8	3	4	1	7	6

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

TW F JFVQRLFCX MFUQXVXU TR LHZCJXAXJN ATUXQ FVQ UXFQN WHU KXQ, NHE ZTMIA RFN IX'R KERIXQ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A WOODLAND DEITY HAD TO CHOOSE ONE PREFERRED DAY OF THE WEEK, WOULD IT PICK SATYR-DAY?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals H

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today 15°/9° Partly sunny
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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. Don't focus too much on work today. Give yourself time off from your chores and give yourself permission to have fun.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Call it as you see it today, even if it means offending someone you have feelings for.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. Passion planet Pluto will stir your emotions today and there may be times when your feelings get a bit extreme.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. What's done is done and cannot be undone, and the sooner you let go of the past and focus on the future the better.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. If you find yourself caught between rival factions today you must get yourself out of the firing line as quickly as possible.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. If you believe in what you are doing then today's Sun-Pluto link won't have any effect on you.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. You just know that some seriously good opportunities are coming your way. Don't waste them.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. Today's somewhat negative influences will make minor details look more important than they really are.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Some things are important and some things don't matter. Do you know how to tell the difference?

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. You seem to be making things difficult for yourself for no good reason.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. If anyone needs a helping hand or a shoulder to cry on today you will be there in a flash. But don't get so caught up in their woes that you lose sight of what is important for you. Your feelings matter too.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. The planets warn there is a danger you will arrive at a conclusion about someone on no more than hearsay evidence, which could turn them against you. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"Can you get my agent on the phone? I want to know if they are making a new star trek, I want to be cast as the new Geordi LaForge." -Crystal
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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